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Amendment and Interview Summary
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REMARKS AND INTERVIEW SUMMARY

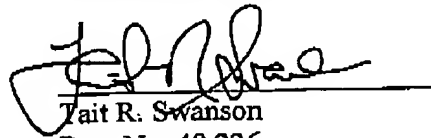
As indicated above, the Applicants submit the foregoing amendments of claims 1-23 to clarify certain aspects of the claims. In addition, the Applicants submit new claims 24-38 to clarify certain claim aspects. On June 2, 2006, the Examiner contacted the Applicants' representative, Tait R. Swanson (Reg. No. 48,226) to discuss Lvovsky et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,570,475, and the claims of the present application. On June 6, 2006, the Applicant's representative and the Examiner agreed that the Lvovsky reference does not disclose a main coil, ferrous ring, and shielding coil disposed one after another in an outward direction from the imaging volume. In other words, the Lvovsky reference does not disclose a ferrous ring disposed between a main coil and a shielding coil. The Applicant's representative and the Examiner also agreed on several minor claim amendments, such as changing "for" to "configured to" in the claims. On June 7, 14, and 21, 2006, the Applicant's representative and the Examiner further discussed the claims. On June 21, 2006, the Examiner cited Jayakumar, U.S. Patent No. 5,001,447, and European Patent No. 414,528. The Applicants respectfully request the Examiner make these three references of record in a notice of references cited in the next office action.

Conclusion

In view of the remarks and amendments set forth above, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview will help speed this application toward issuance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 22, 2006


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